LING 4020 – SPRING 2013
STRUCTURE OF MODERN ENGLISH M/W 12:00-1:20

Dr. Patricia Cukor-Avila
Email: pcavila@unt.edu
Hours: M/W 2:30-4:30 and by appointment

Course Objectives
This course provides a thorough study of the basics of English grammar. By the end of the semester, you will be able to identify all parts of speech, understand how words fit together to form sentences, and explain some of the changes that have taken place in American English over the last several decades.


Course Requirements
We will closely follow the textbook (9 chapters in 16 weeks). We’ll do many of the exercises at the end of each chapter – this is a lot of work! This will be supplemented with other readings and exercises. There will be a final project due at the end of the semester, which will give you an opportunity to utilize and synthesize what you have learned. All supplemental material, the reading schedule, homework assignments, and the exam schedule will be uploaded to Blackboard Learn. You should plan to check Blackboard daily for announcements, calendar entries, and uploaded material.

Most of your grade will be based on three exams. The homework assignments are intended to help you prepare for the exams. These will be graded on a scale from 1 to 5. You’ll be assigned to groups to work on your final project, but each student will need to turn in his/her own project.

Course grades will be determined from the following:

- Exams (3) 65%
- Quizzes and Homework 15%
- Final Project 10%
- Attendance and Participation 10%

Attendance and participation are crucial to your success in this class, and crucial to maintaining a positive learning community. I consider 2 unexcused absences to be acceptable. If you know you will need to miss class for a legitimate reason, please let me know in advance by email. If you miss class – whether your absence is excused or unexcused – it is your responsibility to ask one of your classmates for notes from the lecture you missed. After you have gotten notes and reviewed them, I will be happy to meet with you to go over any remaining questions you might have. Excessive absences – excused or unexcused – will affect your grade. Late homework assignments will be graded down 2 points each day they are late.

Classroom Courtesy
We will engage in whole class discussions, group collaborations, and pair work, so it is imperative that all students treat one another with respect. Please refrain from texting, sleeping, and working on other projects. If you need/want to use a laptop, you must ask my permission in advance. Behavior that interferes with the instructor’s ability to conduct class or with other students’ opportunity to learn will not be tolerated. CELL PHONES MUST BE PUT AWAY DURING THE ENTIRE CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS. If you are expecting a call due to an emergency situation you must let me know before class begins.
Course Schedule

Jan. 14:  Introduction to course; sentence grouping activity
          Homework: Read Chap. 1

Jan. 16:  Identifying verbs; discuss VI, VL, and BE
          Homework: Re-read Chap. 1; p. 21 exercises 26-50

Jan. 21:  MLK Day – no class

Jan. 23:  Identifying verb; discuss VT, Vg, Vc
          Homework: Read Chap. 2

Jan. 28:  Parts of speech/lexical categories
          Homework: Re-read Chap. 2

Jan. 30:  Constituents; sentence structure; tree diagrams
          Homework: p. 47-48 exercises 26-50; Read Chap. 3

Feb. 4:   Review homework and tree diagrams; modality and aspect
          Homework: Re-read chap. 3; Timeline and TAM exercises

Feb. 6:   Tense
          Homework: verb forms exercise; p. 69-70 exercises 26-50

Feb. 11:  Review for Test #1

Feb. 13:  Test #1 over chapters 1-3
          Homework: Read Chap. 4

Feb. 18:  Noun phrases
          Homework: Re-read Chap. 4; p. 87-88 exercises 26-50. Read Chap. 5 pp. 89-97

Feb. 20:  Noun phrases; negative, yes/no, and wh-questions
          Homework: Read Chap. 5 pp. 98-108

Feb. 25:  Passives, expletives, and imperatives
          Homework: Re-read Chap. 5 pp. 89-108; read rest of Chap. 5; p. 115-116 exercise I;
          p. 117 exercise II 26-50

Feb. 27:  Review Chap. 5; Quiz #1 (material from Chap. 5)
          Homework: Read Chap. 6; p. 137-138 exercises I and II

Mar. 4:   Constructing relative clauses
          Homework: Re-read Chap. 6; exercise III 26-50

Mar. 6:   Relative clauses cont.; review homework exercises
          Homework: Prepare for Test #2

Mar. 18:  Review for Test #2
Mar. 20: Test #2 over chapters 4-6
   Homework: Read Chap. 7

Mar. 25: Participial phrases
   Homework: Re-read Chap. 7; p. 159-160 exercises I and II

Mar. 27: Prepositional phrases; grammatical ambiguity
   Homework: p. 162-162 26-50; Read Chap. 8

Apr. 1: Review homework; noun, gerund, and infinitive clauses
   Homework: Re-read Chap. 8

Apr. 3: Wh-clauses; review for Quiz #2
   Homework: p. 184-188 exercises I, II, III 26-50

Apr. 8: Review homework; Quiz #2
   Homework: Work on final project

Apr. 10: Project day
   Homework: Read Chap. 9

Apr. 15: Sentence-level modifiers
   Homework: Re-read Chap. 9; p. 206-207 exercises I and II

Apr. 17: Sentence-level modifiers cont.
   Homework: p. 209-210 exercise III 26-50

Apr. 22: Review homework

Apr. 24: Review for Test #3

Apr. 29: Test #3 chap. 7-9
   Homework: Read Chap. 10

May 1: Course overview

May 6: Final project due

Assignment Submission and Grading

Academic Dishonesty and Integrity

It is your responsibility to become familiar with UNT’s Policy of Academic Dishonesty. The full policy can be found at http://policy.unt.edu/policydesc/student-standards-academic-integrity.

This policy defines the following forms of academic dishonesty:

• **Cheating:** Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.

• **Plagiarism:** The deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, or statements of another person as one’s own without acknowledgement.

• **Fabrication:** Intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

• **Facilitating academic dishonesty:** Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic integrity.
If any course material is submitted that violates this policy of academic dishonesty, the assignment will receive a grade of "F", and the student may receive a failing grade for the entire course; appropriate judicial action will be filed. This action includes a report of academic misconduct to the Office of Academic Integrity and possible dismissal from The University of North Texas. There are no first-offense warnings regarding plagiarism.

Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Essential Competencies
ODA policy – “The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.”

In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, we will cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to accommodate reasonably qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you will require accommodation, please advise us of your needs in writing no later than the end of the second week of the semester. Essential competencies for this course include the ability to:

• read and synthesize research articles.
• interact with subjects in a professional and ethical manner.
• use a computer with various word processing, e-mail, transcription, and graphics software applications.
• speak in front of the class and use multimedia to support the presentation.